

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT ^{FILED}
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS ^{CLERKS OFFICE}

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JUE ZHANG,) U.S. DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,) DISTRICT OF MASS.
)
v.) C.A. NO. 04-12735PBS
)
MICHAEL P. GOLDFINGER, M.D., and)
SHRAGA N. GOLDBERG, M.D.,)
Defendants.)
)

**ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES & JURY DEMAND OF
THE DEFENDANT SHRAGA N. GOLDBERG, M.D.**

Parties

1. The defendant, Shrager N. Goldberg, M.D. ("defendant") is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph 1 of the plaintiff's Complaint and, therefore, call upon plaintiff to prove the same.
2. The allegations set forth in paragraph 2 of the plaintiff's Complaint do not pertain to this defendant. To the extent they are construed to apply to this defendant, the defendant denies the same.
3. The defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 3.
4. The allegations set forth in paragraph 4 of the plaintiff's Complaint contain a legal conclusion, and therefore, the defendant need not respond. To the extent a response is required, the defendant denies the same.
5. The allegations set forth in paragraph 5 of the plaintiff's Complaint contain a legal conclusion, and therefore, the defendant need not respond. To the extent a response is required, the defendant denies the same.

COUNT I- NEGLIGENCE – SHRAGA GOLDBERG, M.D.

6. The defendant repeats and reavers fully his Answers to the preceding paragraphs as if each were set forth here in its entirety.
7. The defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 7.

8. The defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 8.
9. The defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 9.
10. The defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 10.

WHEREFORE the defendant denies that the plaintiff is entitled to any relief whatsoever as to this defendant.

COUNT II- NEGLIGENCE – MICHAEL GOLDFINGER, M.D.

The allegations set forth in Count II of the plaintiff's Complaint do not pertain to this defendant. To the extent they are construed to apply to this defendant, he is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and, therefore, denies same.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Having denied each and every allegation of the plaintiff's Complaint not specifically admitted above, the defendant, by way of affirmative defenses, states and avers as follows:

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

By way of affirmative defense, the defendant states that the action is barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

By way of affirmative defense, the defendant states that the negligence of the plaintiff was greater than the alleged negligence of the defendant and that such negligence of the plaintiff contributed to the alleged damages and, therefore, the plaintiff is barred from recovery for the defendant's alleged negligence under M.G.L. c. 231, § 85.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

By way of affirmative defense, the defendant states that the plaintiff is guilty of contributory negligence and the damages, if any, recovered by the plaintiff from the defendants should be reduced in proportion to the said negligence of the plaintiff in accordance with M.G.L. c. 231, § 85.

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

By way of affirmative defense, the defendant states that the plaintiff's Complaint and each respective count thereof fails to state a cause of action for which relief can be granted.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

By way of affirmative defense, the defendants state that the plaintiff, by her conduct and actions is estopped to recover any judgment against the defendant.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

There is a lack of jurisdiction over the subject matter as there is no diversity of citizenship and/or as there is no valid claim for jurisdiction under 42 U.S.C. § 1395dd, such that the Complaint must be dismissed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (b) (1).

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

There is a lack of jurisdiction over the person of this defendant pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (b) (2).

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

There is improper venue pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (b) (3).

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Defendant says that the amount of the recovery for alleged conscious pain and suffering, if any, is limited by the provisions set forth in M.G.L. c. 231 § 60H.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Defendant says that the plaintiff's recovery for past and future medical expenses is limited pursuant to the provisions set forth in M.G.L. c. 231 § 60G.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 231 § 60B, it is requested that a tribunal be convened within fifteen days to afford the plaintiffs an opportunity to present an offer of proof and substantiating evidence sufficient to raise a legitimate question of liability appropriate for judicial inquiry.

DEFENDANT DEMANDS A TRIAL BY JURY.

For the Defendant,
Shraga N. Goldberg, M.D.,
By his attorneys,

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